

# NEBRASKA SUPREME COURT



## *Office of Public Information*

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### **Interpreter Ceremony to be Held January 25 in the Nebraska Supreme Court in Celebration of Martin Luther King**

LINCOLN –In celebration of the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, the Nebraska Supreme Court will hold an interpreter ceremony on January 25 at 4:00 p.m. in the Nebraska Supreme Court chambers with Justice John Gerrard presiding.

Nebraska's Spanish language court interpreters will be honored during an awards presentation and newly certified Spanish interpreter L. Alex Perez will take his oath.

During the ceremony, Nebraska Supreme Court Justice John Gerrard will speak to the need for providing equal access to justice for all participants in the court system; Linda Crump, co-chair of the Nebraska Supreme Court and Nebraska Bar association's Minority and Justice Task Force, will address the challenges faced by Nebraska's increasingly diverse population. Sheryl Connolly, coordinator for the Court Interpreter Training and Certification program, will present currently certified court interpreters with awards in recognition of their pioneering spirit and dedication.

It is crucial to the overall fairness of the system that judicial proceedings are completely and accurately translated for non English-speaking participants. "The Nebraska Supreme Court is very pleased with the high quality work of our interpreters. The certification process is extremely demanding and our certified interpreters work hard to meet this high standard. We also encourage our other interpreters who are working toward certification," said Justice Gerrard.

Members of the public are invited to attend this event honoring Martin Luther King's work on January 25, 2008.

On April 5 – 6, 2008, the Supreme Court will hold an orientation program in Lincoln for all language interpreters. The certification exam will be given May 2 and 3 at the State Capitol in Lincoln.

Contact Sheryl Connolly, Office of the State Court Administrator, 402-471-3730, concerning any aspect of the interpreter program.

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Janice K. Walker, State Court Administrator  
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